

**News Release**

(June 9, 2010) – The City of Gallatin's debt is now rated in the prestigious "AA" category by both Standard and Poor's and Moody's Investors Service – the two most well-respected credit rating agencies.

"These credit ratings are used by investors to judge the financial strength and credit worthiness of borrowers in the municipal bond market," Mayor Jo Ann Graves said. "Maintaining credit ratings of this strength from two credit rating agencies makes the City's bonds attractive to potential investors and results in significantly lower borrowing costs for capital improvements."

Standard & Poor's currently rates the City's General Obligation Debt "AA-". As part of a rating recalibration, Moody's recently revised their rating of the City's debt to "Aa2" – the same rating the agency has assigned Sumner County's debt.

"These prestigious credit ratings are due to the City's fiscal restraint during uncertain economic times," Graves said. "The City Department Heads, Council and I have worked diligently to allocate the citizens' tax dollars wisely. That is why, even in an economic downturn, I am proud to say Gallatin has neither raised taxes nor cut services. In next year's budget, there are no new taxes, no employee layoffs and no cuts in services."

###